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Publications of the Nebraska Historical Society. Vol. XX.

By ALBERT WATKINS. The Society, Lincoln, 1922. Pp. 400.

PRECEDED by the Editor's preface and a list of the officers and directors of the Society and followed by a general index, is a history, in short stories, of the valleys or plains of the Missouri and Arkansas rivers (comprehensively the Nebraska Country) and of the contiguous mountain region, covering the first six decades of the nineteenth century and compiled mainly from contemporaneous newspapers named in the preface.

First are the stories of the traffic of the fur traders of St. Louis—mainly French—with the Indians, along the Missouri, the Platte and the Arkansas rivers, by means of rowboats, saddle horses and pack mules. The progressive advance, from 1819, of steamboats up the Missouri; the movement at the same time for military protection of the Upper Missouri traders from Indians and British trespassers; the later construction of military posts along the Oregon Trail, to protect fur traders of the middle mountain region and the emigrants to California and Oregon, and afterward along the cut-off road to Montana; the cholera scourge at St. Louis and on the California and Oregon road, and of the smallpox among the Upper Missouri Indians; management of the public lands, mismanagement of the Indians and their segregation; political organization for the region thus opened for white settlers and the fierce partisanship incident thereto, especially touching the slavery question; character of the pioneer currency; origin of the Santa Fe trail, and its traffic; wars between gentile settlers and undesired Mormons and the retirement of the saints to Utah and the armed rebellion there; the continual hostilities between whites and Indians and among the Indian tribes; the annexation of Texas, and the part of it included in Nebraska; emigration to the Pacific coast and intervening territory; early mails; building of the earliest railroads west of the Mississippi, are also a part of this varied, vivid and often flash-lit history.

Ten full-page illustrations and a good map of the Nebraska country add to the attractiveness and usefulness of the vol-

ume. As a source history of this country from 1808 to 1861 it is one of the best volumes available.

The Wilderness Road to Kentucky; Its Location and Features.

By WM. ALLEN PUSEY, A.M., M.D. George H. Doran Company, 1921.

THE author in this book has achieved what he states in his preface was his aim—"the location of the famous Wilderness Road to Kentucky, along with its characteristic features." The location is given in a clear, concise manner, intermingled with stirring, romantic scenes vividly depicted, which keeps one's interest always alert.

Mr. Pusey qualified for this work by gleaning his material from notes made by old pioneers who traversed this road and by then traveling over the road himself, in order to confirm these accounts. The printing is of heavy type, which makes the book easy to read. The binding is of excellent quality. The book is profusely illustrated, being literally filled with picturesque scenes along the Wilderness Road. It also contains nine maps. The 131 large pages constitute a wealth of information concerning the road, arranged in readable order.

BARNEY G. CROWE

Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1918. Vol. I. Washington, 1921. Pp. 487.

IN this first volume the secretary of the association summarizes the business transactions of the executive council, the president's address, and a group of papers relating to American agricultural history. For instance, among these documents, he gives first, the Proceedings of American Historical Association in 1918; second, Vagaries of Historians; third, Brief History of the Sheep Industry in the United States. On this particular subject there are many illustrative maps showing the rate of progress from 1840 to 1915. There are also a number of valuable tables. Fourth, Dr. John Mitchell, Naturalist, Cartographer, and Historian. Fifth, Historical Aspects of the Surplus Food Production of the United States, 1862-1902. Sixth, Early Days of the Albarle Agricultural Society. Seventh, Minute Book of The